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Letter dated 24 March 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, following the debate in the Security Council on the report of the Panel of Experts on violations of Security Council sanctions against UNITA, His Excellency Mr. Youssouf Ouedraogo, Minister of State and Minister for Foreign Affairs, sent a letter to the Chairman of the sanctions Committee concerning Angola. The letter reads as follows:

> I have gone through the report of the Panel of Experts on Angola and the substance of the discussion in the Security Council at its meeting of 15 March 2000 on the subject.
>
> I should like to congratulate you and the members of the Panel of Experts on your work.
>
> As you know, owing to scheduling conflicts, we had expressed the hope that the timing of the mission of the committee of experts to Burkina Faso could be shifted slightly. Unfortunately that was not possible. We are sorry that it could not be done. I was, nonetheless, able to talk to the members of the Panel of Experts on 11 December 1999 in Lomé, Togo, while I was there for the Summit of Heads of State of the Economic Community of West African States.
>
> In this connection, I should like to ask the Council to refer to the statement made by Burkina Faso in the Security Council on 15 March 2000 when the report of the Panel of Experts was submitted.
>
> The Government of Burkina Faso reaffirms its strong commitment to the decisions of the Security Council, in particular those concerning the sanctions imposed on UNITA, and its willingness to work with the United Nations to implement them fully.
>
> As part of this positive and constructive approach, it has just established, on 22 March 2000, an inter-ministerial committee to follow up the implementation of United Nations sanctions against UNITA.
>
> In order to enable the inter-ministerial committee to investigate, at the national level, the allegations contained in the report of the Panel of Experts, I should be grateful if you would provide it with any evidence that you may have.

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In addition, the security services have just been instructed to take appropriate steps to strengthen existing measures for implementing the sanctions against UNITA.

In order to continue the dialogue with the sanctions Committee of which you are Chairman, the Government of Burkina Faso is prepared to welcome a mission from the Committee, as we suggested in January 2000.

(*Signed*) Youssouf **Ouedraogo**

I have the honour to request that you have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Michel **Kafando**

Annex

Composition of the inter-ministerial committee

1. Minister for Foreign Affairs.
2. Minister of Defence.
3. Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance.
4. Minister of Trade, Industry and Handicrafts.
5. Minister of Territorial Administration and Security.
6. Minister of Transport and Tourism.
7. Minister of Justice.
8. Minister of Communications.